

law, the report of a rule entitled "Television Broadcasting Services; Savannah, Georgia" (MB Docket No. 21-57) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1072. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Television Broadcasting Services; Cape Girardeau, Missouri" (MB Docket No. 21-50) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1073. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Television Broadcasting Services; Augusta, Georgia" (MB Docket No. 21-49) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1074. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Television Broadcasting Services; Lubbock, Texas" (MB Docket No. 21-61) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-13. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico requesting the United States Congress to forward fund the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant Program; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 1

Whereas, the Bureau of Indian Affairs operates the Higher Education Grant Program as authorized by the Snyder Act and provides higher education scholarships; and

Whereas, numerous Indian Tribes administer the Higher Education Grant Program through Public Law 93-638 Self-Determination contracts or through Public Law 100-472 Self-Governance compacts; and

Whereas, the Federal Government routinely operates under continuing resolutions, which results in delayed funding to the Bureau of Indian Affairs; consequently, payment of college scholarships and institutional disbursements are delayed; and

Whereas, this is problematic for Indian college students who depend on these scholarship payments to pay for tuition, books and room and board; all too often, Indian students arrive on campus with little or no money; and

Whereas, there is precedent for Forward Funding of Federal Indian Education Programs in that Bureau of Indian Education Kindergarten through Twelfth Grade schools and tribally controlled colleges and universities have been Forward Funded; and

Whereas, Forward Funding is a budget authority that is made available for obligation in the last quarter of the Fiscal Year for the financing of ongoing activities during the next Fiscal Year; and

Whereas, Forward Funding achieves two outcomes: it provides funding for two years in advance and makes funds available on July 1 of each year, and it shields the Grant Program from government shutdowns, which allows Tribes to disburse grant funds ahead of the Academic Year: Now, therefore be it

Resolved by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico, That the New Mexico Legislature request the United States Congress to take affirmative steps to Forward Fund the Higher Education Grant Program of the Bureau of Indian Education; and be it further

Resolved, that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, the New Mexico Congressional Delegation, the Tribal Leadership of all twenty-three Indian Nations, Tribes and Pueblos in New Mexico and the Secretary of Indian Affairs.

POM-14. A memorial adopted by the Senate of the State of New Mexico urging the United States Congress, the President of the United States, and members of the New Mexico Congressional Delegation to address reducing the "Cliff Effect" and ending generational poverty; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SENATE MEMORIAL 19

Whereas, everyone should have the opportunity to work hard and achieve family economic security, and economic independence should be rewarded; and

Whereas, however, some policies are insufficient and inadvertently keep hard-working parents from climbing the economic ladder, according to a New Mexico voices for children report; and

Whereas, hard-working families with fewer resources may need work supports to help them cover basic necessities, such as food, child care or health care, until these families can be financially self-sufficient; and

Whereas, most government safety-net programs, such as child support, income assistance, health coverage and food assistance, have a "cliff effect"; and

Whereas, the cliff effect occurs when a household loses eligibility for public assistance once a family's income surpasses the threshold set by the federal poverty guidelines; and

Whereas, in many cases, the value of a lost or reduced benefit can exceed an increase in wages; and

Whereas, families often find themselves working harder and earning more but unable to get ahead; and

Whereas, the cliff effect is particularly devastating when it applies to child care assistance, because child care is one of the most significant costs in a household budget; and

Whereas, the cliff effect occurs when an increase in income is enough to disqualify a family from receiving the work support benefit but is not enough to cover the cost of the lost benefit; and

Whereas, there are some concerns that increasing income would have the unintended consequence of a family losing child care assistance and other benefits when the family's income surpasses the income eligibility ceiling; and

Whereas, the cliff effect is creating a permanent class of workers caught in the dilemma of how to pay for competing needs, such as food, child care, housing, medication and other essential goods and services while trying to get ahead; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Senate of the State of New Mexico, that the president of the United States, the New Mexico congressional delegation and all other members of congress be urged to address reducing the cliff effect and ending generational poverty; and be it further

Resolved, That the federal government be urged to create policies that would reduce the cliff effect, in support of working families trying to improve their lives and the lives of their children; and be it further

Resolved, That the federal government be urged to consider higher income without consequences that undermine families through loss of benefits; and be it further

Resolved, That the federal government be urged to address cliff effect policies in all areas of benefits to ensure that a situation is not created that keeps low-income families who are striving to work hard and achieve family economic security from achieving success; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this memorial be transmitted to the president of the United States, the New Mexico congressional delegation and all other members of congress.

POM-15. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of North Dakota urging the President of the United States and the Department of Homeland Security not to transfer illegal aliens to North Dakota; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3048

Whereas, the United States is a nation that values law and order; and

Whereas, a crisis exists at the southern border of the United States, involving an unknown number of illegal aliens entering the United States without authorization; and

Whereas, media reports have asserted North Dakota is being considered by United States Department of Homeland Security officials as a potential site for the relocation of illegal aliens detained at the south Texas border; and

Whereas, accepting illegal aliens or assisting in propagation of illegal immigration, amidst the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) pandemic, may harm the health, safety, and welfare of North Dakota citizens and may impose an unnecessary fiscal burden on those citizens; and

Whereas, in a letter to the United States Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas dated March 23, 2021, Governor Doug Burgum stressed his administration's opposition to the transfer of detained illegal aliens from the southern border to North Dakota, stating "While our state willingly participates in the resettlement of legal, thoroughly vetted refugees, we strongly oppose any efforts to alleviate the southern border crisis of the overwhelming influx of migrants by transporting them to northern border states such as North Dakota"; and

Whereas, Governor Burgum's letter further stated, "We urge the administration to address this crisis at the source, fully enforce federal immigration laws, and reassure northern border states that relocation is not on the table"; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of North Dakota, the Senate Concurring Therein:

That the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly joins Governor Burgum and his administration in opposing any efforts to transfer illegal aliens who entered the United States without authorization to North Dakota; and be it further

Resolved, That the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly urges the President of the United States and the Department of Homeland Security not to transfer illegal aliens to North Dakota; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the United States Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, the United States House of Representatives Majority and Minority Leaders, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the secretary of the United States Senate, the clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the United States Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

POM-16. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of North Dakota urging the United States Congress to temporarily amend cargo carrying truck length and weight restrictions on state highways and interstates that are a part of the National Network to allow North Dakota and surrounding states to conduct a road train pilot program and to permanently amend the restrictions to allow road trains and the national network highways and interstates if the pilot program is successful; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3001

Whereas, the National Network is an approved network of state highways and interstates in the United States for use by large trucks and commercial truck drivers; and

Whereas, the National Network supports interstate commerce by regulating the size of trucks operating on the National Network through a federal cargo carrying length limitation of approximately 100 feet depending on truck configuration and a federal cargo carrying weight limitation of approximately 80,000 pounds gross vehicle weight; and

Whereas, grandfathered provisions in operation in the state at the time federal regulations were enacted provide trucks in North Dakota may be up to 110 feet in overall length and 105,500 pounds gross vehicle weight on permissible routes; and

Whereas, trucks operating on the 129,000 pound Limited Transportation Network may be up to 129,000 pounds gross vehicle weight on certain routes; and

Whereas, the United States is experiencing a shortage of approximately 900,000 truck drivers with commercial driver's licenses; and

Whereas, railroad infrastructure has diminished by approximately 40 percent between 1920 and 2017, from 5,400 miles of track to 3,330 miles of track; and

Whereas, it is becoming more difficult to meet increasing demands for freight and commodities in a timely and efficient manner due, in part, to the shortage of commercial truck drivers and the reduced railroad infrastructure; and

Whereas, a road train is a trucking vehicle consisting of two or more connected trailers or semitrailers linked and hauled by a single operating prime mover or tractor unit which may exceed overall length and total gross vehicle weight limitations, but not exceed current statutory axle load limitations; and

Whereas, Australia uses road trains to move freight in an efficient manner to meet demand; and

WHEREAS, allowing road trains to exceed federal truck length and total gross vehicle weight limitations may be a viable solution to the efficiency and capacity issues resulting from the shortage of commercial truck drivers and reduced railroad infrastructure by allowing commercial truck drivers to haul more freight in longer and heavier cargo loads: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the house of representatives of North Dakota, the Senate concurring therein:

That the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to temporarily amend cargo carrying truck length and weight restrictions on state highways and interstates that are a part of the National Network to allow North Dakota and surrounding states to conduct a road train pilot program and to permanently amend the restrictions to allow road trains on the National Network highways and interstates if the pilot program is successful; and be it further *Resolved*,

That the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the United States

Senate, and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. CANTWELL, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1260. A bill to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MANCHIN for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

*Tommy P. Beaudreau, of Alaska, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

By Mr. DURBIN for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Todd Sunhwa Kim, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 1603. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. COTTON:

S. 1604. A bill to codify the successes of rapid development of safe vaccines through Operation Warp Speed, for the next administration to use as a guide in the event of another pandemic; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 1605. A bill to designate the National Pulse Memorial located at 1912 South Orange Avenue in Orlando, Florida, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROMNEY:

S. 1606. A bill to designate as wilderness certain National Forest System land in the State of Illinois, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. COONS):

S. 1607. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve how the Department of Veterans Affairs discloses to individuals entitled to educational assistance from

the Department risks associated with using such assistance at particular educational institutions and to restore entitlement of students to such assistance who are pursuing programs of education at educational institutions that are subject to Federal or State civil enforcement action, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1608. A bill to support the sustainable aviation fuel market, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 1609. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that electrochromic glass qualifies as energy property for purposes of the energy credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1610. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LUJAN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1611. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the responses of the Department of Defense to sex-related offenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. KING, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1612. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to assist States to rehabilitate or replace certain bridges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 1613. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish a grant program for certain fitness facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 1614. A bill to require certain grantees under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to submit a plan to track discriminatory land use policies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 1615. A bill to limit the scope of regulations issued by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to control communicable diseases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BARRASSO:

S. 1616. A bill to provide exceptions from permitting and fee requirements for content creation, regardless of distribution platform, including digital or analog video and digital or analog audio recording activities, conducted on land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1617. A bill to modify the requirements for the Administrator of the Small Business Administration relating to declaring a disaster in a rural area, and for other purposes;